

# FIRST FOCUS

## STRATEGIC PLANNING

This year, our church is engaged in a strategic planning process to discover God's vision for our church in the next 4-6 years. We want to discern God's call together for First Baptist through 2020.

This process involves several stages of gaining information from the church and community, planning with staff and deacons, and sharing feedback and information with the church as a whole.

To begin this process, our Strategic Planning Committee invites you to join us for a listening session on Sunday, January 25. These sessions run concurrently with worship services and are designed for you to come during the hour in which you do not normally worship. We also have a session for anyone who is not able to attend the other two. Childcare is provided, and a light pizza lunch will be provided for the 1:00 session. You only need to attend one session, and you do not need to sign up ahead of time. Regular worship and SMBS classes will meet as planned. The sessions are as follows:

- Session 1: 9:00-10:00AM in the fellowship hall (for 11:15 worshippers)
- Session 2: 11:15AM-12:15PM in the fellowship hall (for 9:00 worshippers)
- Session 3: 1:00PM in the CLC 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

During the session, you will meet Dr. James Furr, President of the Houston Graduate School of Theology. Dr. Furr is the co-author of *Leading Congregational Change* and has extensive experience as a consultant for Baptist churches and associations across the country. Our strategic planning committee will be facilitating the discussion. Participants will be asked to respond to a series of at least 5 of the 7 questions below:

1. What is the story about our church that you hear yourself most often telling?
2. What do you perceive to be FBC's key strengths, assets, and opportunities?
3. What barriers or challenges work against First Baptist becoming all that God wants?
4. What commitments do you think will need to be made in order to proclaim the gospel where we are?
5. What mission initiatives do we need to equip people to carry out over the next five years?
6. As we love our neighbors as ourselves, how can we welcome our neighbors into our church?
7. Have we missed anything? What is the single most important thing our church needs to know at this time?

This will not be your only chance to meet with the strategic planning committee. If you cannot attend these sessions, please e-mail [pastor@fbctlh.org](mailto:pastor@fbctlh.org) or contact one of the strategic planning committee members by January 28. They will set up a time to meet with you no later than February 8. We will also be sharing the information we receive from the sessions with the church as we develop future plans.

Over the last two years, we've studied Nehemiah, Scouted the City, carried out kingdom assignments, and started Life Groups. With our Kairos journals, we're paying attention to God's work in our midst and studying Ezekiel together. With all this in mind, these sessions are designed to discover where we are as a congregation. I know you've been praying—and seeing—God's work around you. Let's share together this Sunday.



# THIS WEEK

## CONNECTIONS WEEKEND

Connections Weekend 2015 is February 6-8. This Sunday is the last day for early registration prices! Please register now, online or in person. Check out [fbctlh.org/connections](http://fbctlh.org/connections) for more information.

## MENTORS NEEDED

Our partners at Sabal Palm Elementary School are in need of at least 10 new mentors for the rest of this school year. Children already have paperwork completed and are waiting on us to share love, commitment, and learning experiences with them. Please prayerfully consider giving one hour each week in this way, and encourage your friends and family to do the same!

Anyone who would like to become a mentor should fill out the Mentor Volunteer Form online at [leonschools.net](http://leonschools.net). The next step would be to attend a mandatory training session that is TBA.

For more information, contact Rhonda ([rhonda@fbctlh.org](mailto:rhonda@fbctlh.org)).

## SENIOR ADULTS

Warm up your winter with good friends, food, and fellowship! Join us for the next Senior Adult Luncheon: Friday, January 30, at 12:00PM in the fellowship hall. The cost is still just \$5 per person. Please sign up in your SMBS class, or contact Lenoir (x201 or [lenoir@fbctlh.org](mailto:lenoir@fbctlh.org)) for reservations.

## LIFE GROUPS: EQUIP

Life Groups at FBCTLH are "church where life happens" for our members who have a common place, pursuit, or phase of life with those outside our campus. Based on the life of the early church in Acts 2:41-47, we want everyone to be a part of one group that gathers off site with an outward focus that sees organic growth. Anyone who is interested in being in a Life Group should register to join us for a training session January 31 from 1:00 until 6:00PM. Register online at [fbctlh.org/lifegroups](http://fbctlh.org/lifegroups) or by using the form available in the connect center.

## CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

8:00AM Median Adult III Bible Study, Parlor  
9:00AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary  
9:00AM Vision Session 1  
10:00AM Churchwide Bible Study Options  
11:15AM Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary  
11:15AM Vision Session 2  
1:00PM Vision Session 3  
3:00PM GriefShare, Adams 301

### MONDAY, JANUARY 26

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Connect Center  
10:30AM First Joy Choir Sing Out, Senior Center

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

6:00PM Childcare for Internationals, Duval 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
6:30PM Internationals English Classes, Chason 2201

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

9:30AM Women's Bible Study, Gardner Home  
11:00AM Senior Ladies' Bible Study, Large Meeting Room  
4:45PM Fellowship Meal, Fellowship Hall  
6:00PM Childcare, Duval 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
6:00PM Children's Music & Missions, Duval 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
6:00PM Youth Choir, Adams 211  
6:00PM Adult Prayer and Bible Study, Fellowship Hall  
6:00PM DivorceCare, Adams 315  
6:00PM Women's Bible Study, Adams 301  
6:45PM RAs and GAs, Duval 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
7:00PM Youth Collide, CLC 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
7:00PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Chason 2201  
7:00PM Chamber Players Rehearsal, Adams 200  
7:15PM Praise Team Rehearsal, Sanctuary  
7:15PM Young Adults Veritas, Adams 317

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

5:30PM First Brass Rehearsal, Adams 200

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

12:00PM Senior Adult Luncheon, Fellowship Hall

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

9:00AM-1:00PM CLC Open  
1:00PM EQUIP Training, CLC 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

# COMING SOON

## **SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

If you would like to provide flowers for the sanctuary on a Sunday morning in honor or in memory of a loved one or a special event, please let us know using the flower calendar in the Adams foyer (on the first floor, on the right as you exit the organ side of the sanctuary). Reserve your spot now! These flowers are then provided to the homebound each Monday morning with a visit and a note of encouragement. Thank you for participating in this ministry to our church family! For more information, contact Lenoir (x201 or lenoir@fbctlh.org).

## **WOMEN ON MISSION**

All Women on Mission Groups will meet together for our February Mission Project.

When: Tuesday, February 10, 9:30-11:00AM

Where: Florida Baptist Children's Home library (8415 Buck Lake Road). We will be making Valentine goodie bags for the residents (all supplies provided) and hearing an update from a member of the FBCH staff. Call Beckie Maynard (539.5079) if you need additional information. If you need a ride, please call Linda Wheeler (877.4839).



### **Service Recordings**

*If you can't be at FBCTLH on a Sunday morning, both worship services (9:00AM and 11:15AM) will be streaming live during their respective times each week.*

*For access, visit our website at [fbctlh.org/Sunday](http://fbctlh.org/Sunday).*

## **SERVE**

### **FLORIDA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME**

For the month of January, we will join the Children's Home in collecting **warm winter socks** - all sizes for boys and girls, ages 5 through 18. Collection bins are in the College Avenue foyer, the welcome center, by the elevator on the first floor of the Adams building, and in the main office.

### **MORE OPPORTUNITIES**

Check out the [fbctlh.org/Serve](http://fbctlh.org/Serve) page for more ways to get involved now in serving in and through FBCTLH.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TALLAHASSEE

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PERIODICALS  
POSTAGE PAID  
TALLAHASSEE  
FLORIDA

**THE VISION NEWSLETTER**

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For submissions, address corrections, or to unsubscribe, contact x132 or [hello@fbctlh.org](mailto:hello@fbctlh.org).

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Vision, 108 West College Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32301.

**SERVICE RECORDINGS**

[fbctlh.org/sermons](http://fbctlh.org/sermons)

Our Traditional Worship service is broadcast on Comcast Channel 21 at 11:00AM each Sunday.

Contact x215 or [lee@fbctlh.org](mailto:lee@fbctlh.org) with questions.

If you are homebound and would like to be on our mailing list to receive a free DVD of our worship services each week, please contact x201 or [lenoir@fbctlh.org](mailto:lenoir@fbctlh.org). All other requests are \$5, and can be made at the front desk or online at [fbctlh.org/contact](http://fbctlh.org/contact).

**FELLOWSHIP MEAL**

January 28 - Meat loaf, scalloped potatoes, field peas, rolls, salad bar, and dessert  
*\*for kids: hot dog or hamburger with chips*

**DEACON SCHEDULE**

Deacon of the Day – Howard Rhodes

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM John Schanbacher
- 10AM Lee Scarborough
- 11AM Keith Gaskins

**SECURITY SCHEDULE**

Sunday, January 25

- 8AM Jim Wheeler
- 10AM Jeff Crew
- 11AM Keith Burnsed

Wednesday, January 28

- 6PM Wayne Connor

<b>TRADITIONAL WORSHIP</b>	9:00AM
<b>BIBLE STUDY</b>	10:00AM
<b>CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP</b>	11:15AM

# HAND IN HAND WITH THE LORD

Ezekiel 37:15-28